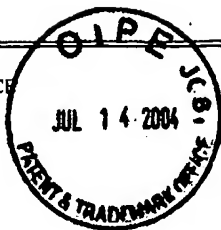


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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL* | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|----|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| <i>AM</i> | AA | 5,227,427 | 07/13/1993 | Serizawa et al. | | | 04/29/1992 |
| | AB | | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|-----------|----|----------------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| <i>AM</i> | AL | EP 0 892 017 A2 & A3 | 1999-01-20 | | | | Yes | |
| <i>AM</i> | AM | EP 0 890 616 A | 1999-01-13 | | | | Yes | |
| <i>AM</i> | AN | EP 0 473 038 A | 1992-03-04 | | | | Yes | |
| <i>AM</i> | AO | JP 02 178339 A | 1990-07-11 | | | | Abstract | |
| <i>AM</i> | AP | JP 06 190980 A | 1994-07-12 | | | | | No |

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | |
|-----------|----|--|
| <i>AM</i> | AR | Supplementary European Search Report, dated May 4, 2004, 2 pages |
|-----------|----|--|

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| EXAMINER <i>AM</i> | DATE CONSIDERED <i>9/2004</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL* | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|----|-----------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>dm</i> | AA | 5,227,427 | 07/13/93 | Hagine Serizawa et al. | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |
| | AB | | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | |
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| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |

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| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|-----------|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| <i>dm</i> | AL | JP 02-178339 | 07/11/90 | Japan | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Abstract only | |
| <i>dm</i> | AM | JP 02-222452 | 09/05/90 | Japan | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Abstract only | |
| <i>dm</i> | AN | JP 05-193061 | 08/03/93 | Japan | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Abstract only | |
| <i>dm</i> | AO | JP 05-339502 | 12/21/93 | Japan | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Abstract only | |
| <i>dm</i> | AP | JP 06-190980 | 07/12/94 | Japan | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Abstract only | |

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